



WIS 29 preservation plan

Wittenberg to Green Bay

Winter - Spring 2005

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Mission statement:

To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.

Included in this issue:

- Plan overview
- Goal and objectives
- Shawano County plan
- Brown County plan
- Public involvement
- Plan timeline



During the next two years, WisDOT will develop a plan to preserve right of way along 61 miles of WIS 29 from US 45 in Wittenberg to County J west of Green Bay.

Plan has long-range focus

WisDOT to preserve needed right of way

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has started a process to preserve the right of way that will be needed to keep drivers safe and WIS 29 functional long into the future.

WIS 29 is one of Wisconsin's most important east-west corridors. It was expanded from two lanes to four lanes in the early 1990s to provide a safe, uninterrupted route for drivers crossing Northern Wisconsin.

As communities along WIS 29 grow and develop, WisDOT anticipates that traffic and demand for access to businesses and residences along WIS 29 will also increase.

This right of way preservation plan will focus on 61 miles of WIS 29, from US 45



in Wittenberg to County J west of Green Bay. The planning in Shawano, Outagamie and Brown Counties is part of a larger initiative by WisDOT across Wisconsin.

Due to the length of the corridor, the planning effort will be broken into two segments:

- The Shawano County segment between US 45 and the east county line is 53 miles in length (**Page 2**).
- The Brown County segment, between the west county line and County J is 8 miles in length (**Page 3**).

Goal and objectives

Goal:

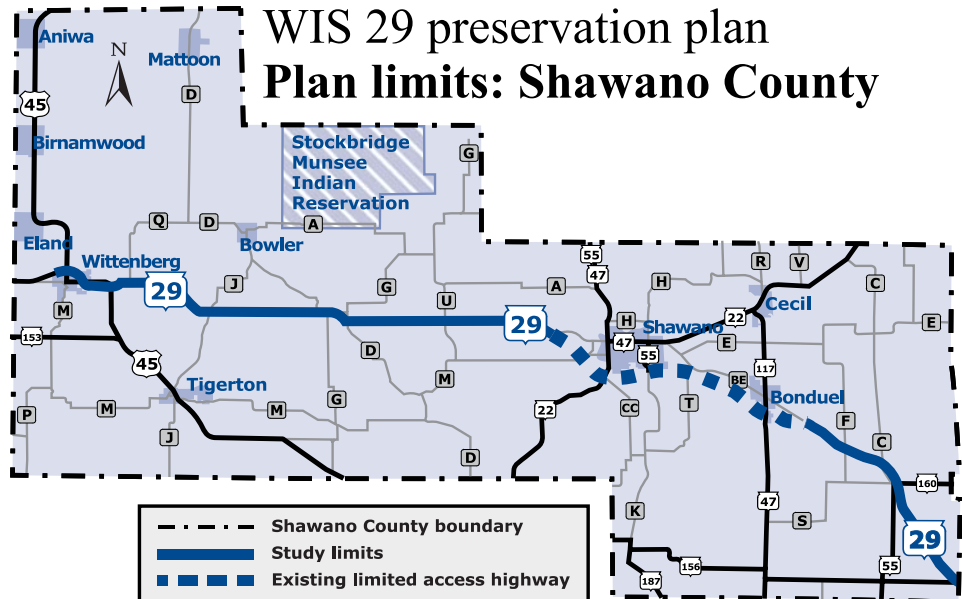
Preserve the public investment in WIS 29 by planning for long-term mobility and safety.

Objectives:

1. **Map right of way for future construction improvements:**
 - Future interchange locations
 - Future overpasses/underpasses
 - Local road system modifications
2. **Avoid/minimize local impacts to:**
 - Existing homes and businesses
 - Farm operations
3. **Avoid/minimize impacts to:**
 - Wetlands
 - Endangered/threatened species
 - Archeological and historic sites
4. **Work in a collaborative manner with local officials, business owners and residents.**



WIS 29 was expanded in the early '90s to provide a safer, uninterrupted route for drivers crossing Northern Wisconsin.



Project team will analyze existing and future needs of Shawano County highway

As part of the right of way preservation effort in Shawano County, the project team will examine existing conditions and identify future needs along the WIS 29 corridor. WisDOT will work with communities to identify the locations of future interchanges, overpasses and local road modifications. These solutions will maintain safe and efficient traffic operation on WIS 29 well into the future.

The preservation project team will prepare a report that outlines recommendations, followed by preliminary plans and an environmental impact assessment. **No construction is scheduled at this time.**

Major steps in preparing the preservation plan in Shawano County include:

- Gathering existing data such as traffic volumes, crash data and information about existing land use.
- Determining future land use, travel



WisDOT will meet with people in their communities during plan preparation.

demand and corridor improvement needs.

- Analyzing future improvements in relation to cost, local impacts and environmental impacts.
- Preparing alternative concept drawings for corridor improvements.

Again, public involvement will be vital to the success of this right of way preservation effort (**Page 3**).

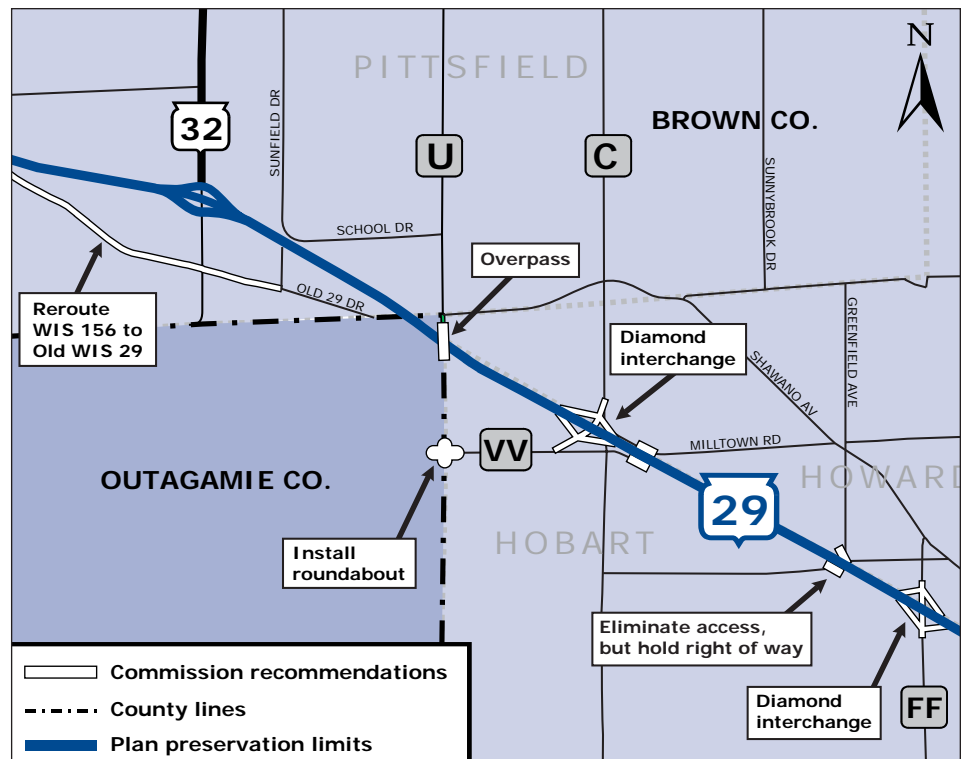
Plan developers in Brown County will study commission's recommendations

Current plan development in Brown County will incorporate recommendations by the Brown County Planning Commission Study, which was adopted by the Brown County Board. The study recommends:

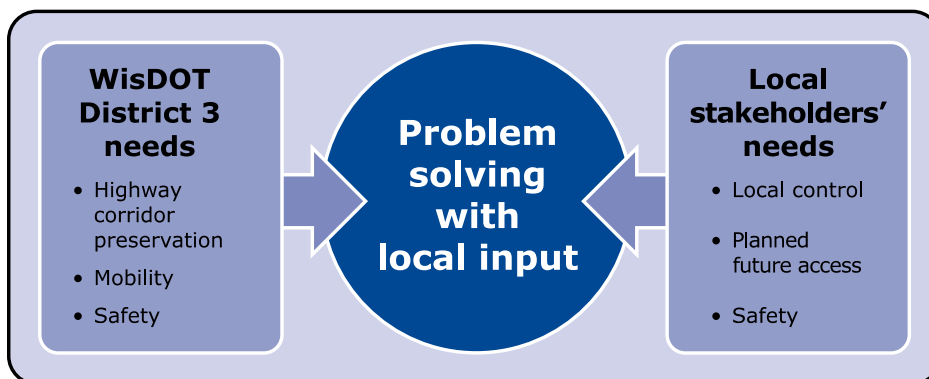
- A diamond interchange with WIS 29 near County VV.
- A diamond interchange with WIS 29 at County FF.
- An overpass of WIS 29 at County U.
- Restoring connections to the local road system.

These recommendations will be studied in more detail and advanced to the next stage of project development, which includes preliminary engineering and documenting environmental impacts.

Although **no construction is scheduled at this time**, it is important to preserve the right of way to avoid costly future acquisitions as development occurs.



Public involvement has crucial role in success of plan



WisDOT will maintain an open dialogue with local stakeholders during development of the WIS 29 preservation plan. Public information meetings, locally held small-group meetings, newsletters and other communication tools will keep residents informed about the plan's progress and findings. WisDOT will also schedule meetings with local elected officials and community planners to learn more about the long-range planning goals of each individual community.



Preservation plan timeline

Development of the WIS 29 preservation plan is expected to last about two years. Milestones in the plan development are shown below.

	ACTIVITY	Winter 2004/05	Spring 2005	Summer 2005	Fall 2005	Winter 2005	Spring 2006	Summer 2006	Fall 2006	Winter 2006	Spring 2007
SHAWANO COUNTY	Assess existing conditions										
	Review land use and access										
	Develop concept plans										
	Finalize recommendations/corridor report										
	Develop preliminary plan										
	Develop environmental document										
	Develop right of way map										
BROWN COUNTY	Develop preliminary road plan										
	Develop environmental document										
	Develop right of way map										